Oral Presentation

Submission from the Lake Huron Fishing Club

In the Matter of

Bruce Power Inc. – Bruce A and B Nuclear Generating Station

Request for a ten-year renewal of its Nuclear Power Reactor Operating Licence for the Bruce A and B Nuclear Generating Station

Commission Public Hearing – Part 2

May 28-31, 2018

Exposé oral

Mémoire du Lake Huron Fishing Club

À l’égard de

Bruce Power Inc. - Centrale nucléaire de Bruce A et Bruce B

Demande de renouvellement, pour une période de dix ans, de son permis d’exploitation d’un réacteur nucléaire de puissance à la centrale nucléaire de Bruce A et Bruce B

Audience publique de la Commission – Partie 2

28-31 mai 2018
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
CNSC Central Regional Office
280 Slater St., 9th Floor
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Attention: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Secretariat

Re: Request for Intervenor Status at May 30-31, 2018 Public Hearing to Discuss Renewal of BNGS Power Reactor Operating License

As Vice-President of the Lake Huron Fishing Club, I am writing this letter on behalf of our members to show our strong support for Bruce Power’s application to renew its Power Reactor Operation License.

Bruce Power provides Ontario with 30% of its power and has an integral role to play in the province’s Long Term Energy Plan. The company provides direct, full-time employment to over 4,000 people in our region, and indirectly contributes to thousands more jobs across North America by injecting billions of dollars into the economy each year. Furthermore, Bruce Power safely operates the station and has done so since it took over operations in 2001. We have developed a strong relationship with Bruce Power over the years, and we are uniquely positioned to speak about Bruce Power’s environmental safety, proactive leadership, and commitment to support the growth of many community-driven environmental initiatives.

The Lake Huron Fishing Club is a volunteer organization that was incorporated in 1983 in Bruce County. It is our primary focus as environment stewards to look out for the environment and help preserve valuable natural resources. Since its formation our membership has grown to exceed 400 members and the Club has invested >$1 million dollars in programs to stock local waterways with trout and salmon, and environmental initiatives such as tree planting, cattle fencing, erosion control, and stream restoration.

Many of our projects could not have happened without the support of Bruce Power, and as local anglers and volunteers within the community we continually see the efforts Bruce Power places on protecting the wildlife and waterbodies that surround the site.
In the last 5 years, Bruce Power has provided the Club with more than $160,000, which allowed us to develop and expand our School Hatchery Program and to make much-needed improvements to a fish way at the Maple Hill dam in the Saugeen River. Our in-class salmon hatchery program now services 47 elementary schools in the region, and students get a unique, hands-on opportunity to learn about fish biology and animal husbandry. At the end of the program students release their fish into the Lake Huron watershed. With their generosity and dedication to Environmental Stewardship, Bruce Power will have School Hatcheries in 100 schools within 5 years.

We recently created an exciting new partnership with Bruce Power after they agreed to help us partially remove the Truax Dam on the Saugeen River (Walkerton, Municipality of Brockton, ON). Our members have lobbied to have this structure removed for several years because it has long been recognized as a significant barrier to fish migration. The Saugeen River is a world-renowned fishery and the removal of the Truax Dam will vastly improve the fishery upstream of Walkerton for many kilometers.

Bruce Power has provided our organization with all the funds needed to complete this project: from start to finish we are financially equipped to undertake this significant environmental improvement. The design engineering and permitting process has started and the dam is expected to be removed in 2019. Ultimately, this dam removal should improve the Lake Huron fishery because many species migrate from the river downstream to the lake each year.

Bruce Power will be using this project as compensation for fish losses that occur at the station due to withdrawal of cooling water from Lake Huron. The Lake Huron Fishing Club has had several opportunities to discuss these impingement and entrainment losses with Bruce Power’s environment staff, and we are satisfied that the level of harm that occurs is minimal; especially considering it is only a small fraction of what is commercially harvested from the lake each year. The Club is excited and proud to work with Bruce Power in its efforts to offset these fish losses.

Bruce Power should be commended for their impeccable record of environmental safety and stewardship, as well as for how much of a positive impact they have on our communities. We support Bruce Power and request the CNSC grant them the renewal of their operating license so they can continue to be environmental leaders and provide Ontario with clean electricity that does not pollute the air we all breathe.

Sincerely,

Michael Hahn
Vice-President, Lake Huron Fishing Club